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United States Department of Agriculture,

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,

Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

RESULTS OF BOYS' DEMONSTRATION WORK IN CORN CLUBS IN 1910.

From the commencement of the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work in 1904 there have been a few bright boy farmers who have asked to be enrolled as demonstrators along with the men. Four years ago special interest was developed among the boys of Holmes County, Miss., and a club was organized by the county superintendent of education, Mr. W. H. Smith, under appointment from the United States Department of Agriculture. During the year 1908 these organizations were extended into several counties and States to give the idea a fair test and also to develop the plan for the organization and conduct of such work.

In 1909 a systematic effort was made by the directors of the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work to organize a few counties in every Southern State. During that year 10,543 boys were enrolled. Each planted his acre, studied the instructions furnished, and worked for one of the several hundreds of valuable prizes offered by public-spirited citizens and organizations in the South. Among these prizes were trips to Washington from Arkansas, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Virginia. Elmer Halter, of Arkansas; De Witt Lundy, of Mississippi; Bascomb Usher, of South Carolina; and Ralph Bellwood, of Virginia, won these trips and were awarded the first diplomas ever given by the Secretary of Agriculture to boys for excellence in agriculture.

The Boys' Demonstration Work radically differs from the school garden. A school garden, while a valuable aid, is defective in certain respects: (1) It can only be worked with hand implements and totally fails to afford experience in the use of teams and improved tools to expedite labor—one of the most important ends of the demonstration work; (2) shortly after the seeds germinate and commence to grow the school usually closes and the garden is no longer worked; and most important of all (3) a school garden fails to teach any special love of the soil or to give any profits that might be derived from working a crop.

The Boys' Demonstration Work teaches the boy how to make a crop successfully and economically; hence, there is an element of economic management and profit in it. It inspires a love of the soil,

and above all when the boy is successful there is a consciousness of achievement, which is of great value. It is not merely a boys' club for the purpose of having a set of rules or an organization. True, this idea is used, but mainly in an incidental way. This work is not a contest in corn growing, wherein each one who enters is left to prepare, plant, fertilize, and cultivate in his own way. Of course, prizes are offered in our work, but for the purpose of arousing interest and keeping up enthusiasm. The plan is to instruct, to direct, to guide, and to train. The circulars of instruction sent at different times throughout the year cover the fundamental principles of good farming, such as deep fall plowing, the pulverization of the soil,



FIG. 1.—A Corn Club boy in his field.

seed selection, suitable spacing, intensive cultivation, the increase of humus, and the economical use of fertilizers, the systematic rotation of crops, the use of more horsepower and better implements, and the keeping of farm accounts. The effort is made to have each boy receive attention and instruction on his acre or the acre of a neighboring boy. A boy takes pride in ownership and will learn more agriculture and more business on his own acre of corn than elsewhere. (Fig. 1.) This is done through the cooperation of school officers, teachers, and agents of the Department of Agriculture.

There were 46,225 boys engaged in this work in 1910. The results of the efforts of those who won the prize trips to Washington will give some indication as to the general operation of the plan.

The following table is made from the reports of these prize winners:

Records of State prize winners in growing corn in 1910.

Names and addresses.	Character of soil.	Yield.	Cost per bushel.	Depth of plowing.	Kind of seed corn:	Distance between rows.	Distance between hills.	Number of cultivations.	Remarks.
			Bushels.	Cents.	Inches.	Feet.	Inches.		
Hughey Harden, Banks, Ala.....	Sandy, clay subsoil....	120	32	14	Prolific.....	3 $\frac{1}{6}$	8	6	Walked 3 miles to school.
Ira Smith, Silver, Ark.....	Sandy loam.....	119	8	14-16	Single ear.....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	5	Won prizes for Japan clover and popcorn.
Joseph Stone, Center, Ga.....	Yellow clay.....	102 $\frac{5}{8}$	29	12-15	Prolific.....	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	14	5	Only 11 years of age.
Stephen Henry, Melrose, La.....	Sandy.....	139 $\frac{1}{8}$	13.6	12	do.....	4	18	8	Third year in club.
William Williams, Decatur, Miss.....	Second bottom.....	146 $\frac{4}{7}$	18	12	do.....	4	18	8	Corn stayed green during drought.
Ernest Starnes, Hickory, N. C.....	Dark, sandy loam.....	146 $\frac{2}{7}$	27	8-10	Single ear.....	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	12	8	Corn followed clover.
Floyd Gayer, Tishomingo, Okla.....	Black, sandy loam.....	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	12	do.....	3	14	7	Watered corn.
Jerry Moore, Winona, S. C.....	Gray, sandy upland....	228 $\frac{3}{4}$	43	10-12	Prolific.....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	6	11	24,000 stalks.
Maurice Olgers, Sutherland, Va.....	Gray upland.....	168	40	12-15	2 ears to stalk.....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	5	Corn followed tobacco.
Norman Smith, ¹ Covington, Tenn.....	Sandy, clay subsoil....	125 $\frac{1}{2}$	37	10	Single ear.....	3	10	5	Used compost.
Rodger Smith, ¹ Karnes City, Tex.....	Black river bottom....	83 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{2}{3}$	8	do.....	3 $\frac{1}{6}$	14	5	Bud worm did damage.
Archie Odom, ² Bennettsville, S. C.....	Dark, sandy loam.....	177	23	15	Prolific.....	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	6	Did not use hoe.
John Williams, ² Tuscaloosa, Ala.....	Dark sand, clay beneath.	83 $\frac{3}{4}$	49	19	do.....	4	10	6	Land made 12 bushels 4 years ago.

¹ The prize winners in Tennessee and Texas were prevented by sickness from making the trips to Washington.

² Second prize in respective States.

It is interesting to note that all of these boys prepared their land in the fall or winter. They not only plowed deep, but harrowed well before planting. Some planted corn following clover, cowpeas, or rye, and some planted cowpeas in their corn. All secured good seed and have selected seed from the field for next year's crop. They are now selling selected seed corn at \$2 to \$4 a bushel. Two of these boys were sons of renters, and all of them charged themselves for the use of the land in keeping their accounts. Their profits will enable several of them to go to school, and all except two expect to take courses in agriculture. Some of them have had two or three years' experience in this work, with increasing success each year. Several of them won prizes over men, and in all cases their crops made useful demonstrations in their communities.

Other prizes were won by these boys, such as pigs, a cow, chickens, a harrow, a cultivator, a plow, a two-horse wagon, a ton of fertilizer, a car of lime, a suit of clothes, a gold watch, a scholarship, and various amounts of money.

It must be remembered that hundreds of other boys did well also, because in Lincoln County, Miss., 48 boys averaged 92 bushels per acre; in Clarendon County, S. C., 142 boys averaged 62 bushels; and in Appomattox County, Va., 17 boys grew 1,423 bushels on 17 acres. The reports show that 100 of the boys in the South grew 13,379.9 bushels on 100 acres, making an average of 133.7 bushels per acre.

In some States the highest yield did not win the prize trip, because the following points constitute the basis of award: Yield, 30 per cent; showing of profit, 30 per cent; best history of crop, 20 per cent; and best 10 ears, 20 per cent. It is possible for a high yield to cost too much and for a boy to be unable to write a clear account of his farm operations. The crop of Jerry Moore, of Winona, S. C., the boy who made $228\frac{3}{4}$ bushels of corn on his acre, has inspired many other boys to join the clubs and make efforts along this line in 1911. (Fig. 2.)

In nearly all the Southern States diplomas signed by the governor and the State superintendent of public instruction were given in 1910 to the boys who made as much as 75 bushels per acre at a reasonable cost of production. Prizes worth more than \$40,000 were offered throughout the 600 counties organized, but the most valued ones were the diplomas issued by the Secretary of Agriculture and by the governors of the different States. There are great possibilities in the further development of this plan.

The visit of the State prize winners to the Capital of the country was worth much to the boys and to the work. They spent a whole week in Washington and kept busy every day. They were shown Mount Vernon, the Government buildings, and other points of

interest. They were received at the White House by President Taft; they were presented with special cards of admission to the Senate and House of Representatives, and upon visiting Congress were presented to their Senators and Congressmen, who were very proud of their young constituents. By special invitation these distinguished visitors appeared before the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives. For nearly two hours Congressmen asked the boys about their crops. The answers revealed the fact that these young farmers knew the fundamental principles of good farming. A stenographer took every word that was uttered, and the committee has had the hearing printed and copies sent to each boy.



FIG. 2.—Jerry Moore, of South Carolina, a member of the Boys' Corn Club, and part of his $228\frac{3}{4}$ bushels of corn produced on one acre in 1910.

President Taft singled out one of the smallest boys during the visit at the White House; and asked him if he selected the best acre on his father's farm. The boy replied that he did not. The next question was, "Will you take another acre next year?" The boy replied, "I have already selected it and plowed it." The President then asked, "Do you think you can do as well next year?" The reply was prompt: "I think I can do better." These answers, in such a presence, were excellent for a 12-year-old boy who had not been far from home before.

A visit was also made to the office of the Secretary of Agriculture, where the visitors were received with marked courtesy, their photographs were taken, large, attractive diplomas bearing the seal of the

Department and the signature of the Secretary (fig. 3) were awarded, and Secretary Wilson made them an address. The Secretary said, in substance, that while the whole world knew of the South, that her people had made records for statesmanship, for bravery, and for great industrial progress, it had not known that boys under 16 years of age could accomplish such great feats in production as was evidenced by the boys present on that occasion.



FIG. 3.—Joseph Stone, of Georgia, winner of the prize trip to Washington from Georgia, showing the diploma presented by the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., December, 1910.

He attributed the great increase in the production of corn in the South during 1910, in considerable measure, to the boys' corn club work, and he emphasized the great importance of the corn crop to feed the rapidly increasing millions of this country, and especially to produce the meats necessary for the sustenance of the people.

He predicted that the South would not only supply the home demand for meat but would become an exporter of meats and live stock.

He congratulated the boys on their excellent work and stated that it was a great achievement for our common country, and that the

publication of the results would induce many people to move into the Southern States. They had always admired the climate, and now they would find that the soil is very productive for the cereals.

He laid great stress upon the importance of keeping domestic animals and especially of the best grade, and the production of milk, butter, and cheese.

He advised the boys not to stop with achievement in corn, but to let that be the first great step toward obtaining an education in scientific agriculture.

He emphasized the importance of industry and economy and said that the boy who obeyed his father and mother, did the chores, and was faithful in the little things about his home was the boy that the world would depend upon to achieve greater things in later life.

He charged the boys that the world is watching their work and waiting for them; that there are plenty of openings for boys who do such splendid things.

He then called for the diplomas and made appropriate remarks as he presented the diploma to the boy representing each State. The whole occasion was very instructive and impressive.

S. A. KNAPP,
Special Agent in Charge.

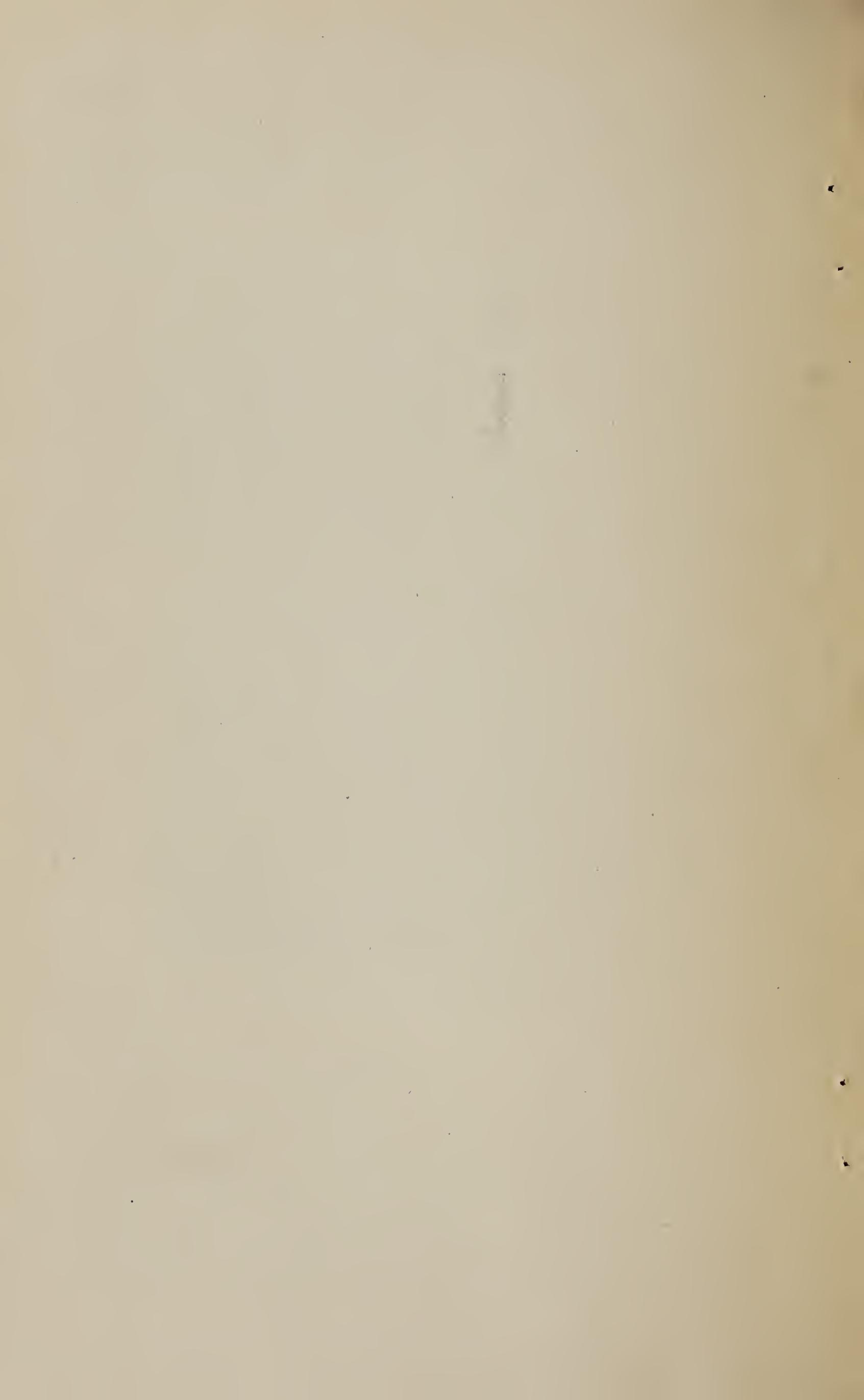
O. B. MARTIN,
Assistant in Boys' Demonstration Work.

Approved:

Wm. A. TAYLOR,
Acting Chief of Bureau.

FEBRUARY 14, 1911.





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RESULTS OF BOYS' DEMONSTRATION WORK IN CORN CLUBS IN 1911.

From the commencement of the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work, in 1904, there have been a few bright boy farmers who have asked to be enrolled as demonstrators along with the men. Five years ago special interest was developed among the boys of Holmes County, Miss., and a club was organized by the county superintendent of education, Mr. W. H. Smith, under appointment from the United States Department of Agriculture. During the year 1908 these organizations were extended into several counties and States to give the plan a fair test and also to develop further and systematize the organization and conduct of such work.

In 1909 a systematic effort was made by Dr. S. A. Knapp, in charge of the Farmers' Cooperative Demonstration Work, to organize a few counties in every Southern State. During that year 10,543 boys were enrolled. Each planted his acre, studied the instructions furnished, and worked for one of the several hundreds of valuable prizes offered by public-spirited citizens and organizations in the South. Among these prizes were trips to Washington from Arkansas, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Virginia. Elmer Halter, of Arkansas; De Witt Lundy, of Mississippi; Bascomb Usher, of South Carolina; and Ralph Bellwood, of Virginia, won these trips and were awarded the first diplomas ever given by the Secretary of Agriculture to boys for excellence in agriculture.

During the next year 46,225 boys joined the clubs, and the results were still more conspicuous. It soon became apparent that a boy learned enough the first year to make a better record the second. In 1910 prize trips to Washington were offered in nearly all of the Southern States. The following boys won the trips and the diplomas of the Secretary of Agriculture: Hughey Harden, of Alabama; Ira Smith, of Arkansas; Joseph Stone, of Georgia; Stephen Henry, of Louisiana; William Williams, of Mississippi; Ernest Starnes, of North Carolina; Floyd Gayer, of Oklahoma; Jerry Moore, of South Carolina; Maurice Olgers, of Virginia; Norman Smith, of Tennessee;

Rodger Smith, of Texas; Archie Odom, of South Carolina; and John Williams, of Alabama. The records of these boys were all good, but the most conspicuous were those of the following: Jerry Moore, whose yield was $228\frac{3}{4}$ bushels at a cost of 42 cents per bushel (fig. 1); Stephen Henry, $139\frac{4}{5}$ bushels at 13.6 cents; Archie Odom, 177 bushels at 23 cents; and Maurice Olgers, 168 bushels at 40 cents. Some fine averages were made in 1910. In Lincoln County, Miss., 48 club members averaged 92 bushels per acre; 142 boys in Clarendon County, S. C., averaged 62 bushels; while in Appomattox County, Va., 17 boys grew 1,423 bushels. Exhibits were sent to the National Corn Exposition by 100 boys from various parts of the South, which represented the production of 13,379 bushels, or an average of 133.7 bushels per



FIG. 1.—Jerry Moore, of South Carolina, a member of a Boys' Corn Club, and part of his $228\frac{3}{4}$ bushels of corn produced on 1 acre in 1910.

acre. More than \$40,000 worth of prizes were given to the boys by public-spirited citizens of the South and diplomas were awarded by governors, State superintendents of public instruction, and other officials to boys who produced more than 75 bushels at a cost of not more than 30 cents per bushel.

The boys' demonstration work teaches the boy how to make a crop successfully and economically; hence, there is an element of economic management and profit in it. It inspires a love of the soil and, above all, when the boy is successful there is a consciousness of achievement, which is of great value. It is not merely a boys' club for the purpose of having a set of rules or an organization. True, this idea is used, but mainly in an incidental way. This work is not

a contest in corn growing wherein each one who enters is left to prepare, plant, fertilize, and cultivate in his own way. Of course, prizes are offered in this work, but only for the purpose of arousing interest and keeping up enthusiasm. The plan is to instruct, to direct, to guide, and to train. The circulars of instruction sent at different times throughout the year cover the fundamental principles of good farming, such as deep fall plowing, the pulverization of the soil, seed selection, suitable spacing, intensive cultivation, the increase of humus, the economical use of fertilizers, the systematic rotation of crops, the use of more horse power and better implements, and the keeping of farm accounts. The effort is made to have each boy receive attention and instruction on his acre or the acre of a neighboring boy. A boy takes pride in ownership and will learn more agriculture



FIG. 2.—Norman Smith, of Tennessee, a corn-club member, on his riding cultivator used in working his demonstration corn.

and more business on his own acre of corn than elsewhere. (Fig. 2.) This is done through the cooperation of school officers, teachers, and agents of the Department of Agriculture.

In 1911 there was another large increase in the membership of the boys' clubs, the total number being 56,840. Although the weather conditions were unfavorable for corn because of long-continued drought, the records made by the boys were none the less remarkable and excellent. The diplomas of the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States and the prize trips were still more generally sought after. In some States two or more boys did so well that additional trips and diplomas were awarded. The records shown in Table I are worthy of careful study.

TABLE I.—*Records of State prize winners in boys' corn clubs in 1911.¹*

Names and addresses.	Character of soil.	Yield per acre.	Cost per bushel.	Depth of plowing.	Kind of seed corn.	Distance between rows.	Distance between hills.	Number of cultivations.	Remarks.	
									Feet. $3\frac{1}{2}$	Inches. 4-6
Junius Hill, Attalla, Ala.	Red sandy loam.....	Bushels. $212\frac{1}{2}$	Cents. 8.6	Inches. 9	Two ears to stalk.....				6	Used seed developed by himself and father.
Eber A. Kimbrough, Alexander City, Ala.	Clay loam.....	224 $\frac{3}{4}$	19.8	12	Marlboro Prolific.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	6	9	Used 1,300 pounds of fertilizer, some as side dressing.	
Burley Seagraves, Bigger, Ark.	River bottom.....	$124\frac{9}{10}$	11.9	8	White Dent.....	3	12	7	Cleared \$695, counting prizes.	
Walter Hale, Warren, Ark.	Black sandy loam.....	141 $\frac{5}{8}$	44.1	15	Hastings Prolific.....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	8-10	5	Net profit, \$113.30.	
Ben Leah, Kensington, Ga.	Sandy loam, with clay subsoil.	214 $\frac{7}{8}$	14.2	18	Prolific.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	10	6	Used 600 pounds of fertilizer, and 5 tons of stable manure. Adjoining land produced 20 bushels per acre.	
Arthur Hill, Jakin, Ga.	Gray sandy loam.....	180 $\frac{3}{8}$	42	8	Hastings Prolific.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	6	7	Corn followed clover. Selected seed in field.	
Edward Doyle, Elwood, Ill.	Black clay loam.....	126	12.7	7	Yellow Dent.....	3	8-10	8	Father's yield was 30 bushels.	
Carl Duncan, Rockfield, Ky.	Clay loam.....	97 $\frac{4}{8}$	13.7	6	Boone County White.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	44	6	Plowed with an ox.	
Howard Burge, Bowling Green, Ky.	do.....	78	21	7	White Dent.....	4	18	7		
John H. Henry, jr., Melrose, La.	Rich sandy loam.....	150 $\frac{3}{4}$	16.3	8	Gandy's Prolific.....	4	18	9	Land has been farmed 50 years.	
Bennie Beeson, Monticello, Miss.	Dark upland, with clay subsoil.	227 $\frac{1}{16}$	14	10	New Era.....	3	6	10	Used 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of manure and \$8 worth of fertilizer.	
John Bowen, Grenada, Miss.	Sandy loam.....	221 $\frac{1}{8}$	16	9	Prolific.....	4	8	7	Land near by made 40 bushels.	
Barnie Thomas, Lake Cormorant, Miss.	Rich sandy loam.....	225	34.5	9	Hastings Prolific.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	10	6	Selected seed in field.	
Charles Parker, jr., Woodlands, N. C.	Sandy loam, with clay subsoil.	195 $\frac{9}{10}$	24	12	Biggs Prolific.....	$3\frac{5}{6}$	6	8	Broke land twice.	
Philip Wolf, Kildare, Okla.	Chocolate loam.....	80 $\frac{7}{8}$	13.3	7	One ear.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	16	7	Very dry weather.	
Claude McDonald, Hamer, S. C.	Dark sandy loam.....	210 $\frac{4}{7}$	33.3	12	White Dent.....	$4\frac{1}{2}$	6	5	Corn followed cotton.	
Miller Hudson, Timmonsville, S. C.	do.....	151 $\frac{1}{4}$	41	9	Prolific.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	8	6	In club with Jerry Moore.	
John V. McKibbon, Culleoka, Tenn.	Yellow creek bottom.....	167 $\frac{1}{16}$	32	10	Boone County White.....	$3\frac{1}{2}$	40	7	Broke twice; checked rows.	
Norman Smith, Covington, Tenn.	Clay loam.....	168 $\frac{3}{16}$	21	14	Yellow Dent.....	3	6	8	Corn followed clover.	
John A. Johnston, jr., Jarratt, Va.	Sandy loam.....	164 $\frac{3}{4}$	34	8	Biggs Prolific.....	4	10	6	Corn followed peanuts.	

¹ The data in this table are taken from the certified reports of the prize winners.

Perhaps there have never been three better records in corn production than those of Junius Hill, Bennie Beeson, and Ben Leath. Junius Hill produced $212\frac{1}{2}$ bushels at 8.6 cents per bushel; Bennie Beeson, $227\frac{1}{6}$ bushels at 14 cents; and Ben Leath, $214\frac{5}{7}$ bushels at 14.2 cents. Some of the other boys did nearly as well, and the average yield of the winners of the prize trips was higher than ever before and the average cost much lower.

It is interesting to note that all of these boys prepared their land by deep plowing in the fall or winter. Some of them plowed it twice, going still deeper the second time. All of them were very careful to see that they had thoroughly pulverized seed beds at planting time. An increasing regard for the value of humus is also manifested. Some of the crops followed cowpeas and clover, and many of the boys used rotted barnyard manure profitably. All of them secured good seed and have selected seed from the field for next year's crop. They are now selling seed corn at \$2 to \$4 a bushel.

The winners of the prize trips also won other valuable prizes, including a pair of mules worth \$600. Additional prizes won were other farm animals, farm implements and supplies, clothes, watches, scholarships in agricultural colleges and high schools, subscriptions to agricultural journals, books on agriculture, and various amounts of money.

It is noteworthy, also, that hundreds of other boys in the corn clubs throughout the South did nearly as well as the boys who came to Washington. The following facts will give some idea of the records made: Fifty-two boys in Georgia received diplomas, signed by the governor and other officials, for producing more than 100 bushels per acre apiece at an average cost of less than 30 cents per bushel; 21 Georgia club members from the seventh congressional district alone grew 2,641 bushels at an average cost of 23 cents per bushel; 19 boys in Gordon County, Ga., averaged 90 bushels, 10 of them making 1,058 bushels. The 10 boys who stood highest in Georgia averaged 169.9 bushels and made a net profit of more than \$100 each, besides prizes won. In Alabama 100 boys averaged 97 bushels at an average cost of 27 cents. In Monroe County, Ala., 25 boys averaged 78 bushels. In Yazoo County, Miss., 21 boys averaged 111.6 bushels at an average cost of 19.7 cents. In Lee County, Miss., 17 boys averaged 82 bushels at an average cost of 21 cents. Sixty-five boys in Mississippi averaged 109.9 bushels at an average cost of 25 cents. Twenty Mississippi boys averaged 140.6 bushels at an average cost of 23 cents. Ninety-two boys in Louisiana grew 5,791 bushels on 92 acres; 10 of these boys went above 100 bushels, although the weather conditions were very unfavorable in that State. In North Carolina 100 boys averaged 99 bushels. In the same State 432 boys averaged 63 bushels. In Buncombe County, N. C., 10 boys averaged 88 bushels. In Sussex County, Va., 16 boys averaged 82 bushels. Fifteen boys in the

vicinity of Memphis, Tenn., where the business men contributed about \$3,000 to aid the work, averaged 127.4 bushels at an average cost of 28 cents per bushel. Many other records in other States were equally as good in view of the fact that a drought prevailed very generally throughout the South in 1911.

The continued liberality of business men and citizens generally indicates an increasing and vital interest in the work. In 1911 the total value of the prizes offered in the South to the boys' corn clubs approximated \$50,000. Some of the most valuable prizes were: \$1,000 in gold in Oklahoma to the 120 boys making the best records in that State; registered pigs in every county through which the lines of the donating railroad pass; free trips to attend short courses on agriculture; and cash. The \$1,000 in gold mentioned was divided as follows: \$500 to the 40 boys making the best records in any county, \$300 to the 40 boys making the next best records, and \$200 to the 40 boys with the third best records. A good suggestion is offered in this plan. Some prizes should be offered for team work in schools, in townships, and in counties.

The visit of the State prize winners to the capital of the country was worth much to the boys and to the work. They spent a whole week in Washington and kept busy every day. They were shown Mount Vernon, the Government buildings, and other points of interest. They were received at the White House by President Taft and at the Capitol by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. They were presented with special cards of admission to the Senate and House of Representatives, and upon visiting Congress were presented to their Senators and Congressmen, who were very proud of their young constituents. By special invitation these distinguished visitors appeared before the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives.

A visit was also made to the office of the Secretary of Agriculture, where the visitors were received with marked courtesy. They were photographed, and large, attractive diplomas bearing the seal of the Department and the signature of the Secretary were awarded. Secretary Wilson made an address to the boys on the excellence of their records, the value of their performances, and their possibilities in rendering a great service to the South and to the Nation. He said there was more to be accomplished by training boys on the farm than could be expected of the movement of the city people back to the farm.

The success of the boys' corn clubs has encouraged the organization of other clubs among the boys, such as cotton clubs, pig clubs, and potato clubs. This movement has also helped the organization of garden and canning clubs among the girls. One of the most interesting organizations is the "All-Star Corn Club," organized by the

boys who came to Washington on the prize trips. All the boys who have won the prize trips and diplomas are eligible to membership in this advanced class.

The enrollment in the corn clubs for 1912 bids fair to surpass all former records. The presence of the National Corn Exposition in the South and their plans to have 500 of our leading boys there with their exhibits will emphasize and advertise the fine records that these boys will doubtless make in 1912.

BRADFORD KNAPP,
Special Agent in Charge.

O. B. MARTIN,
Assistant in Charge of Boys' Corn-Club Work.

Approved:

B. T. GALLOWAY,
Chief of Bureau.

MARCH 12, 1912.

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